

SPARK GAP

Vol. 28, Issue 11, November 2011 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for twenty-seven Years*

FCC Terminates Proceedings Affecting the Amateur Radio Service

The FCC issued an order on November 1 that terminated hundreds of proceedings, including six proceedings that members of the public, including the ARRL, had asked not to be terminated. Two of these six proceedings involved the Amateur Radio Service. This follows a June 2011 public notice that sought comments on whether or not it should terminate approximately 800 docketed proceedings.

On July 20, 2011, the ARRL filed comments with the FCC on this matter, explaining that it had no objection to the termination of the proceedings in the *Public Notice*, save for one item: The ARRL's *Petition for Rulemaking (RM-10165) Amendment of Parts 2 and 97 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the 2300-2305 MHz Band*. In this *Petition*, the ARRL requested that the FCC change the Amateur Radio Service's allocation in that band from Secondary to Primary. This *Petition* was one of the six items to be terminated.

RM-10165

The ARRL's *Petition* was filed May 7, 2001 and on July 2, 2001, it was placed on *Public Notice*. In October 2002, the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) issued an *Order* dismissing this and two other petitions pertaining to the 2300-2305 MHz band. The ARRL noted in its comments July 2011 that "the *Order* did not finally resolve the issue of the allocation status of the Amateur Service in the 2300-2305 MHz band, or the ARRL's request for a Primary allocation. Rather, the Commission merely postponed a decision with respect to the allocation status of that band until some unspecified future time."

The ARRL maintains that the status of the Amateur Radio Service allocation at 2300-2305 MHz remains relevant because of actions taken by the Commission, with respect to an adjacent band at 2305-2320 MHz and because the ARRL has filed a *Petition for Reconsideration* regarding the actions taken in the 2305-2320 MHz band, as well as other unrelated proposals for use of the 2300-2305 MHz band, including Medical Body Area Networks.

"Regarding the 2305-2320 MHz band, in May 2010, the Commission issued an *Order* that amended certain rules governing the Wireless Communications Service (WCS) to enable WCS licensees to provide mobile broadband services," the FCC stated in its *Order*. "In doing so, the Commission acknowledged that out-of-band emissions that could result from expanded use of WCS mobile devices in the 2305-2320 MHz band have the potential to increase interference to amateur radio operations in the 2300-2305 MHz band. During the course of the WCS proceeding, however, ARRL did not file any comments raising the issue of whether the Amateur Radio Service allocation status in the 2300-2305 MHz band should be modified. Although ARRL filed a *Petition for Reconsideration* of the WCS *Order*, it did not request a change in the status of the Amateur Radio Service allocation at 2300-2305 MHz in that filing. In its *Reply Comments to the Opposition* to its WCS *Petition*, ARRL specifically stated that it was not asking the Commission to revisit any aspect of its past decisions regarding that status."

The FCC stated that it believes that the RM-10165 proceeding concerning the ARRL's request to change the status of the Amateur Radio Service to primary in the 2300-2305 MHz band should be terminated,

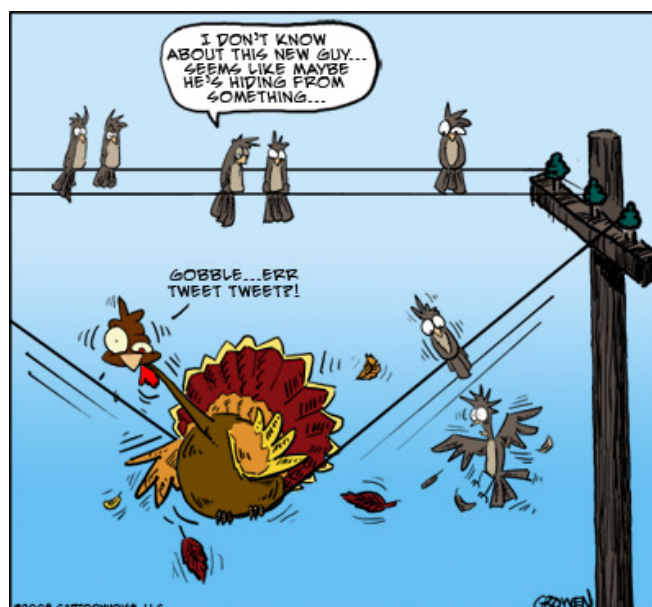
“since its request was dismissed and ARRL did not file a *Petition for Reconsideration* of that dismissal. Although the Commission’s dismissal of RM-10165 left open the possibility that the allocation status for the Amateur Radio Service in this band could be considered again when the reserve status of that spectrum is evaluated, there has been no activity in that proceeding since October 2002. Furthermore, although ARRL raises a concern that a 2009 *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* proposed a secondary allocation in the 2300-2305 MHz band for Medical Body Area Networks, in that proceeding, the Commission did not seek comment on or propose to modify the Amateur Radio Service allocation in the 2300-2305 MHz band. In addition, we do not believe that the issues ARRL has raised on reconsideration in the WCS proceeding warrant holding open the RM-10165 proceeding. If ARRL still desires a change in the Amateur Radio Service allocation status in the 2300-2305 MHz band, it can file a new petition for rulemaking. Accordingly, RM-10165 is terminated.”

Nickolaus Leggett, N3NL

Nickolaus Leggett, N3NL, of Reston, Virginia, requested that the FCC keep Docket No. RM-10412 open “to allow various parties to submit additional comments on regulatory steps that would enhance certain aspects of the Amateur Radio Service.” On April 15, 2004, however, *the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order* that specifically denied RM 10412. Since by this action, RM-10412 should have already have been closed, the FCC rejected Leggett’s request to keep it open

According to the FCC, the termination of these proceedings “further the Commission’s organizational goals of increasing the efficiency of its decision-making, modernizing the agency’s processes in the digital age and enhancing the openness and transparency of Commission proceedings for practitioners and the public.” Upon publication of this *Order* in the *Federal Register*, these proceedings will be terminated in the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). The record in the terminated proceedings will remain part of the FCC’s official records, and the various pleadings, orders and other documents in these dockets will continue to be accessible to the public, post-termination.

..... ARRL, Newsletter November 2011



From the Pres.

On Our MARC...

Thanksgiving is a day of choices! First you have to choose which parade to watch, will it be the one from Detroit, Chicago, or New York? Then there is all that food. Should you try some of everything on the first pass or just plan for multiple rounds? Which football games should we watch? And when do I take my nap? Decisions, decisions, decisions!

Amateur Radio is filled with choices too. Arguably, its bounty may rival Turkey Day! Now that I have a license, what can I do with it? What equipment do I need; mobile, base, HT? How do I choose an antenna? Beams, inverted Vees, verticals, mag-mounts, oh my! What are all those acronyms, APRS, D-STAR, SSB, CW? Q-Codes?? It is all a bit overwhelming. Where can I get some advice?

Ham radio clubs are a knowledge base. Their memberships embody a wealth of information offered in a relaxed and friendly setting. Clubs are a collection of dedicated men and women, paying it forward to their fellow hams, to the hobby, and to their community. Attend a club meeting soon! Come with your questions and bring your experiences. We will all learn together.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!

Bob - KC9NJM
President

New Calls and New Members:

Call sign change: Cy Young, formerly KC9OQW is now N9CHY

New members: Lee Cameron, N9NJS
Stephen Ellis, KK4BXD

**THANKS TO ALL THE STATIONS THAT HELPED OUT ON
THE 2011 PUMPKIN PATROL!!!!**

Recommended Training Courses for ARES/RACES Members

♦ ARRL [Introduction to Emergency Communication](#)-Course #: EC-001. This is a revision of the former Emergency Communications Basic/Level 1 course. This on-line course is designed to provide basic knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer. Prerequisites: [ICS-100 \(IS-100.b\)](#) (Introduction to the Incident Command System); and [IS -700](#) (National Incident Management System). Also recommended, but not required, are: [IS-250](#), Emergency Support Function 15 (ESF15), External Affairs; and [IS-288](#), The Role of Voluntary Agencies in Emergency Management. The course covers: The Framework: How You Fit In; The Networks for Messages; Message Handling; What Happens When Called; Operations & Logistics; Safety & Survival; and What to Expect in Large Disasters.

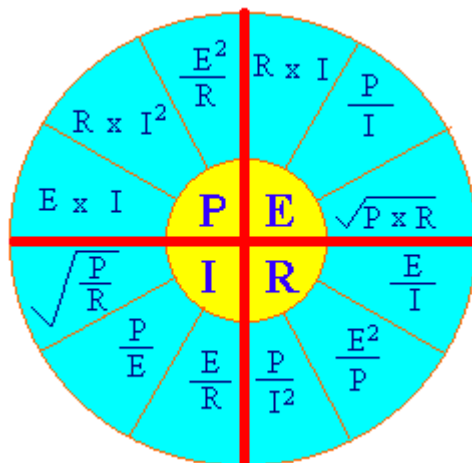
♦ Red Cross or AHA combined course in [Adult CPR/First Aid/AED Basics](#)

♦ [FEMA IS-100 \(Introduction to Incident Command System\)](#)

♦ [FEMA IS-700 \(National Incident Management System\)](#)

..... *ARRL Newsletter November 2011*

It's the Law!



2011 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 2011

19 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

DECEMBER 2011

17 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

January 2012

21 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

February 2012

18 MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

2011 Indiana Hamfests

[illegible]

The season is just about over for Hamfests.



MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome, you do not have to be a HAM to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

WA9RDF
Repeater
146.835/
146.235 MHz
151.4 Hz PL Tone

Club Officers:
President: Robert Jones – KC9NJM
Vice President: Dave Daily – KB9LOT
Secretary: Bruce Tisdale – K9ICP
Treasurer: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG
Repeater Trustee: Jay Chrisman – AA9YP

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 836
Franklin, Indiana
46131

Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 3rd of the month

